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South Dakota Department of Education  
**Special Education Advisory Panel Meeting**

October 2 & 3, 2003

Children's Home Society  
Rockerville, SD

Chairman – Dr. Greg Cooch

Vice-chairman- Ms. Barb Koenders

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## **MINUTES**

### **Members Present**

Ananda Lautenschlager  
Barb Koenders  
Bernie Grimme  
Bertina Larcher  
Gail Eichstadt  
Greg Cooch  
Greg King  
Jim Dunston  
Karn Barth  
Kevin Steele  
Lisa Heckenlaible  
Shirley Albright

### **Members Absent**

Connie McClintock  
Judy Hoscheid  
Michele Cogley  
Nicole Haneke

### **Staff Members**

Michelle Powers  
Mary Weigandt

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature**

**Date**

## **Call to Order**

Greg Cooch, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. mountain time

## **Motioned to change the start time**

Bernie Grimme made the motion and Greg King seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## **Welcome/Introductions/Opening Remarks**

## **Approval of Agenda**

Bernie Grimme motioned and Greg King seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## **Directors Comments**

- ◆ Michelle Powers passed out and reviewed handouts.
  1. Reorganization chart for the Department of Education
  2. Side by side of the House & Senate IDEA reauthorization
  3. Summary of the state wide assessment test
  4. HIIPA Act
  5. 4 types of data
  6. General Accounting Office (GAO)
  7. copy of a hearing decisions (discussed hearing issues)
- ◆ IDEA reauthorization is currently at a stand still.
- ◆ Michelle appraised the members of current Special Education happenings
  - the SIG grant was awarded to South Dakota (Project ENRICH)
  - State Report Card
  - There is an opportunity for one or more panel members to attend a discussion on criteria for Autism at the October 23, 2003 from 8:30 to 10:30 a group head by the Centers for Disabilities is meeting the Sioux Falls school district is hosting the event in Sioux Falls. The Center for Disabilities which heads the Autism project for the State of South Dakota is inviting members of school districts, coop, and state agency. There has been an increasing amount of children in South Dakota identified with ranges of Autism.
  - Kim Goodfellow, this year's president of the school psychologist association and Michelle will be meeting about the LD criteria.

## **Review and adoption of by-laws**

By-laws were reviewed with the recommended changes by the Governors Office and the corrections were implemented. Barb Koenders made a motion to adopt the by-laws and Greg King seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## **The panel broke in to groups to revisit the panel three priorities for 2003-2004**

1. Address the pending reauthorization
2. Child Find
3. Quality Services Provides

Below are listed the priorities with the changes made by the Advisory Panel on October 2, 2003.

## Address Pending IDEA (no changes made)

**Address the pending reauthorization** of the individuals with disabilities education Act (IDEA)-potential of having the panel comment on pending legislation/implementing regulations.

- ◆ **Member participants:** Bernie Grimme, Gail Eichstadt, and Jim Dunston

**Outcome:** Resulting IDEA law and regulations would reflect Advisory Panel's input

### Activities:

- ◆ Identify proposed and final changes in IDEA
- ◆ Comparative analysis of House and Senate version of IDEA
- ◆ Comparative analysis of current and final IDEA
- ◆ Regular updates from interest groups and South Dakota Special Education Programs to Council members.
- ◆ Special Education would provide updates as a standing agenda item

### Indicators:

- ◆ Committee presents list of recommendation to panel
- ◆ Panel would identify supporting concepts
- ◆ Panel would submit comments on Federal Law, Federal Regulations, State Law, and State Rules

### Results:

- ◆ Panel members would increase their knowledge and understanding of the IDEA
- ◆ Final Federal Law, Federal Regulations, State Law and State Rules would reflect

## Child Find

**Child Find**-ensuring all students are identifies properly in the state, addressing possible under-identification of students, (students qualifying under the category of emotional disturbed as an example) and addressing possible service provider problems

- ◆ **Member participants:** Greg Cooch, Lisa Heckenlaible, Shirley Albright, Kevin Steele, Amanda Lautenschlager, and Judy Hoscheid

**Outcome:** Consistent identification to ensure children in need of special education are recognized early and special education services are more appropriately provided.

### Activities:

- ◆ Increase public awareness to parents and professionals of early identification efforts.
- ◆ Generate information through a variety of media regarding early identification screening
- ◆ Provide data to parents and professionals regarding identification and service provision to children with disabilities.
- ◆ Review eligibility criteria for identifying children
- ◆ Coordinate with other state agency advisory panels to develop consistent methods of identification of children with disabilities

- ◆ Disseminate consistent criteria to all school districts

#### **Indicators:**

- ◆ Number of children identified occurs earlier in age than present data shows
- ◆ Number of children identified in specific eligibility criteria areas will more closely approximate national figures on suggested research (Meta Analysis)

#### **Results:**

- ◆ Using consistent methods of identification of children with disabilities
- ◆ Appropriate services are provided to meet the needs of the child.
- ◆ Early intervention

### **Quality Services Provides**

**Ensuring quality services provided** are available in the state to provide special education and related services.

- ◆ **Member participants:** Greg King, Connie McClintock, Barb Koenders, Nicole Haneke, and Michele Cogley

**Outcome:** Impact the number of qualified applicants and address knowledge base of current providers

#### **Activities:**

- ◆ Random sample of school districts on how they handle recruitment and retention
- ◆ What colleges are doing for keeping/recruiting teachers for South Dakota
- ◆ Review pay grade structures and other supports ie IEP facilitator
- ◆ Review training options available in South Dakota
- ◆ Determine cost effective training that's available throughout the State of South Dakota - grant
- ◆ Special Education courses for general education teachers DNN options
- ◆ Survey school districts on S E support services
- ◆ Encourage professionals of district to attend training provided by grant
- ◆ South Dakota parent connection presentation to panel
- ◆ Who gets the training grant – monitor or keep abreast of what the organization will be offering

#### **Indicators:**

- ◆ The colleges and universities way to recruit Special Education service providers
- ◆ Draft creative/innovative options as incentives other than money
- ◆ Create a composite list of options available and distribute for all school district
- ◆ Present to the panel the results and recommend appropriate needs for general education teachers to take more special education courses.

#### **Results:**

- ◆ Increase number of applications for jobs through insensitive for more qualified applicants/to retain teachers
- ◆ Professional training/development of current teachers

- ♦ Recommend changes in college curriculum based on the rising needs of school districts and the public, and children with special needs

**The strategic plan was finalized with the understanding that there will be adjustments at a later date.** Kevin Steele motion for approval and Lisa Heckenlaible seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### **Panel Adjourns for the day at 3:00 pm**

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**Panel reconvened October 3, 2003 at 8:30 am**

**Michelle presented the Department overview of NCLB and how special education is affected.**

**Michelle presented the draft of Part B Annual Performance Report.**

The Advisory panel members were asked to think about which one of the five cluster area they would be like to involved in commenting on.

### **Schedule next 2003-2004 meetings**

Greg Cooch initiated discussion on meeting places.

January 30 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM Central daylight time the meeting via Dakota Digital Network (DDN). There was a discussion on how many sites to include in the meeting. The four sites were chosen were Sioux Falls, Pierre, Spearfish, and Aberdeen.

April 22, 2004 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Brookings at the Alumni offices.

Future topics –

For the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, the panel will hear presentations from the staff of Special Education regarding the draft Annual Performance Report.

For the April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004, Bernie Grimme suggested a transition project presentation as part of the agenda.

**Motion to accept meeting dates** Motion was made to approve the meeting dates for January and April. Gail Eichstadt made the motion and Greg King seconded. The motion was carried.

**11:30 AM Meeting Adjourned** Gail Eichstadt made the motioned to adjourn and Greg King seconded. The motion was carried.